

A SPECIAL GUEST

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BY WAYNE PARTLOW—THE WASHINGTON POST

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A 77-year-old nun addressed Gonzaga graduates during the ceremony. Story, Page D3.



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Mother Teresa talks with the Rev. Bernard J. Dooley during the ceremony.

Mother Teresa Brings Call For Service, Peace to D.C.

Nun Addresses Gonzaga High Graduates

By Lawrence Feinberg
Washington Post Staff Writer

Mother Teresa, the Nobel Peace

Prize winner who heads the world-wide Missionaries of Charity, at-tended her first U.S. high school

graduation yesterday, handing out diplomas to graduates of Wash-ing-ton's Gonzaga High School and ap-pealing for service and peace.

The 77-year-old nun, who lives in Calcutta, where she and her Roman Catholic order care for the poorest of the poor, shook hands with each

of the Jesuit school's 186 graduates as she passed out diplomas. She

stood one step up on the altar of St. Aloysius Church, but most of the

graduates in the all-male class tow-ered above her slight, stooped fig-ure.

"She shook hands pretty firmly and said, 'Congratulations, God

bless you,' said graduate Brian

Amorosi after the ceremony.

"It is almost absurd that a person like Mother Teresa should come

halfway around the world to attend a ceremony honoring us," said vale-dictorian Scott C. Smedira. "It is

equally absurd that, in a world with so many people, that we as individ-uals make a difference. But that,

too, is a reality."

Mother Teresa, accompanied by five members of her order, arrived just before the start of the ceremo-ny. She left quietly just before it

ended an hour and a half later, and was driven from the church on

North Capitol Street in a small

white van.

The Rev. Bernard J. Dooley, presi-dent of the 167-year-old

school, said he wrote Mother Te-resa a letter of invitation about a

year ago and also "had some help

from some parents who know her."

Instead of making a donation to the school, the seniors gave their

class gift—about \$4,000—to her

order, which operates three mis-sions in the District. She received

no honor or award yesterday. Some

universities—Georgetown six years

ago and Columbia last week—have

given her honorary degrees.

Her speech was a homily, urging

the graduates to serve others and

"never be afraid to do small things

with love."

"Hunger is not only for bread,

though there are many places

where people are dying of hunger,"

Mother Teresa said. "But there is

that terrible hunger for love."

"The fruit of love is service. The

fruit of service is peace," she contin-ued. "And peace begins with a smile."

During the ceremo-ny Mother Te-resa smiled often as she chatted

with Dooley. She applauded the

school's wind ensemble after it

played a march that John Philip

Sousa had conducted at a Gonzaga

graduation in 1886.

And she joined in applause and

warm laughter for Dr. Richard D.

Murd, a 1917 graduate of the

school, who said he has made it to a

healthy 87 and $\frac{1}{4}$ by following a

regimen of two steaks a year, one

glass of wine a day, a low-choles-

terol diet, one egg a week, and vi-

gent exercise.

About 1,200 people filled the

church, which adjoins the school

buildings. About 400 others watched

the ceremony on closed-circuit tele-

vision in a basement chapel.